

## Editorial

The collection of articles published in the present volume of *Studia Quaternaria* results from the achievements presented at 2<sup>nd</sup> All-Polish Symposium on Geointerdisciplinary Research Methods (Drugie Ogólnopolskie Sympozjum Geointerdyscyplinarnych Metod Badawczych) – GeoSym 2016 on April 7–8, 2016. The symposium was organized in response to the growing need for ‘geointerdyscyplinarität’ that is an exchange of experiences, views and need for cooperation in various fields referred collectively as the Earth Sciences. Conducting research with the use of a wide range of methods becomes mandatory and requires substantial support from representatives of different fields in science.

A thematic range of papers in this issue is very wide, starting from various aspects of application of Electrical Resistivity Imaging (Electrical Resistivity Tomography) method, through articles related to environmental topics and up to the use of Ground Penetrating Radar method in archaeological research. Up-to-date geophysical methods constitute a complementary element of research on near-surface geological medium, bringing important information about its two or three-dimensional variability. Additionally, ERI & GPR methods are non-invasive and give relatively quick results. Presented papers confirm high efficiency of Electrical Resistivity Imaging application to near-surface research on geological medium. Papers in this volume indicate that this geoelectrical method can be successfully applied to recognize geological structure and determine extents of buried structures, to identify ground-water conditions and potential landslide zones. Ground Penetrating Radar method has been

used to identify tunnels and vertical shafts at the Neolithic chert mining. Environmental topics are discussed based on influence of natural climatic factors on the geomechanical properties of siliceous limestones and cation-exchange capacity variability of peats in vertical sections from eastern and central Poland, in terms of their role as natural geological barriers that isolate shallow groundwater from risk of pollution.

The symposium was organized by the Faculty of Geology of the University of Warsaw, the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Warsaw University of Technology and the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering of the Warsaw University of Life Sciences. The organizing committee consisted of Sebastian Kowalczyk, Tomasz Falkowski, Alicja Bobrowska, Anna Głowacka, Danuta Klimkiewicz, Anna Lejzerowicz, Dominik Łukasiak, Agnieszka Marcinowska, Piotr Ostrowski and Urszula Tomczak. The symposium was held under the honorable patronage of the Chief National Geologist Mariusz Orion Jędrysek, Rector of University of Warsaw Marcin Pałys, Mazovian Province Governor Zdzisław Sipiera, President of the Polish Committee of Engineering Geology and Environment Marek Tarnawski. 118 persons participated in the symposium, representing 12 universities, 4 research institutes and 20 companies. The organizers sincerely thank all those who contributed to the realization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> All-Polish Symposium on Geointerdisciplinary Research Methods GeoSym2016, as well as the participants for presentation of interesting issues, abstracts of which can be found at <http://www.geo.uw.edu.pl/publikacje>.

Sebastian Kowalczyk